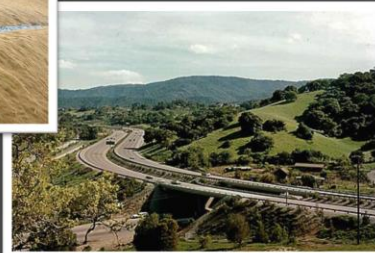


2011 Contractor Meeting



Landscape Architecture Program

Display During:
Contractor Arrival & Registration



Display During:
Keith Robinson's Welcome and Introductions
Switch to next slide when Keith is complete.



Caltrans Contractor Meeting

Agenda Review

Display During:
Greg previews Agenda



Ground Rules

- Start and finish on time
- Full participation encouraged
- Different opinions welcome
- One person speaking at a time
- Limit the jargon

Display During:
Greg's presentation on Ground Rules



Ground Rules

- Limit side conversations
- Keep discussion on topic
- Silence is agreement
- Set phones to “vibrate”
- Have fun

Display During:

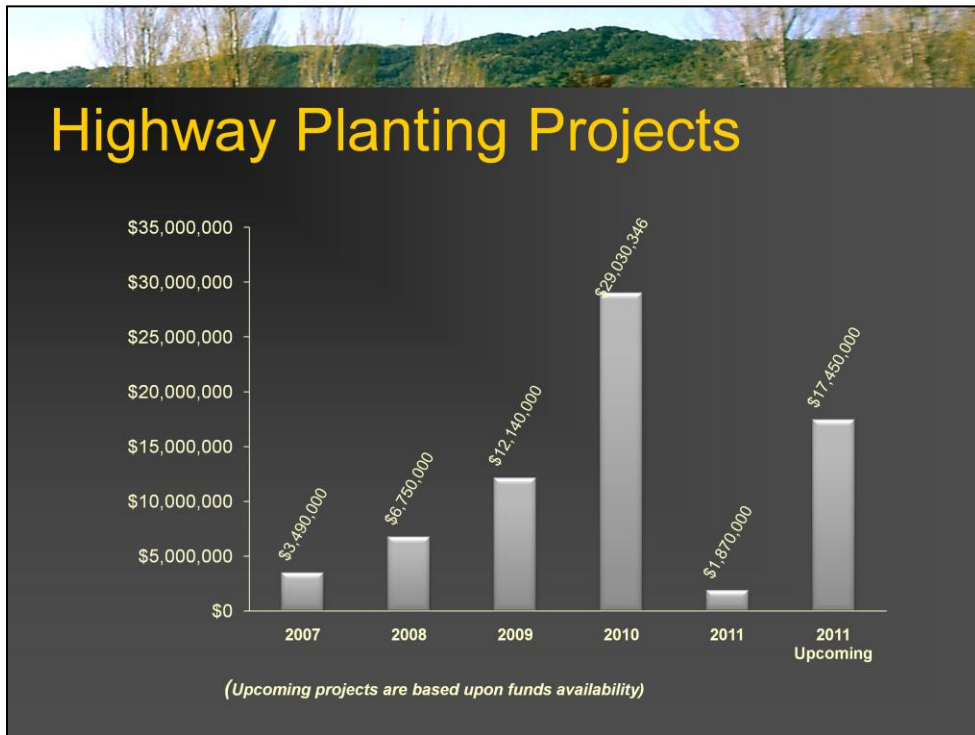
Greg's presentation on Ground Rules



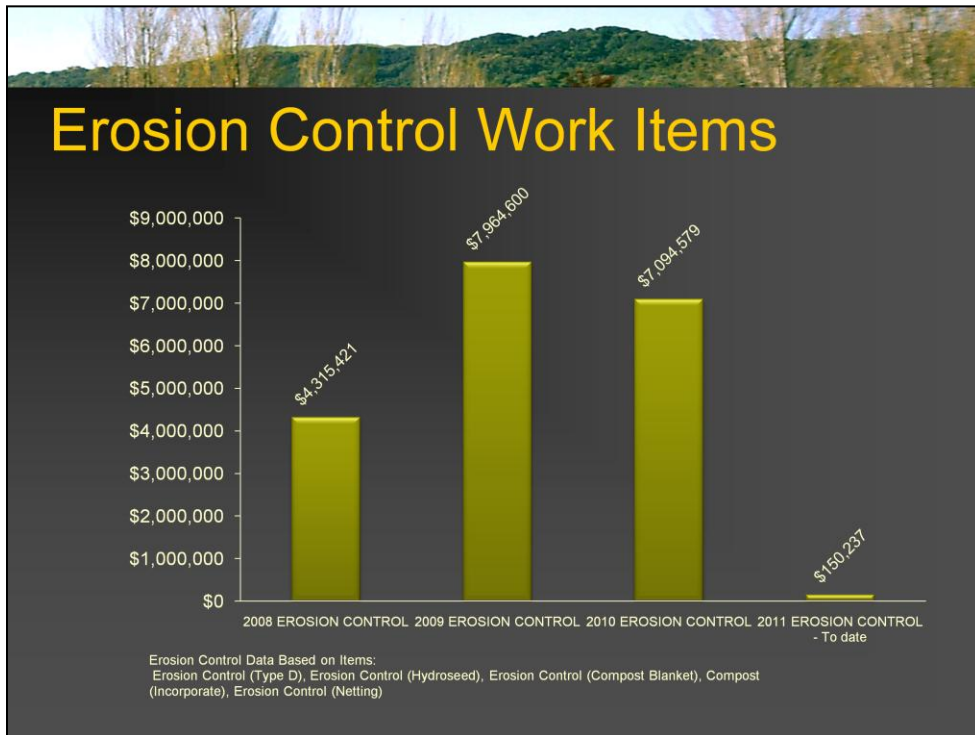
Caltrans Contractor Meeting

Trends and Forecasts

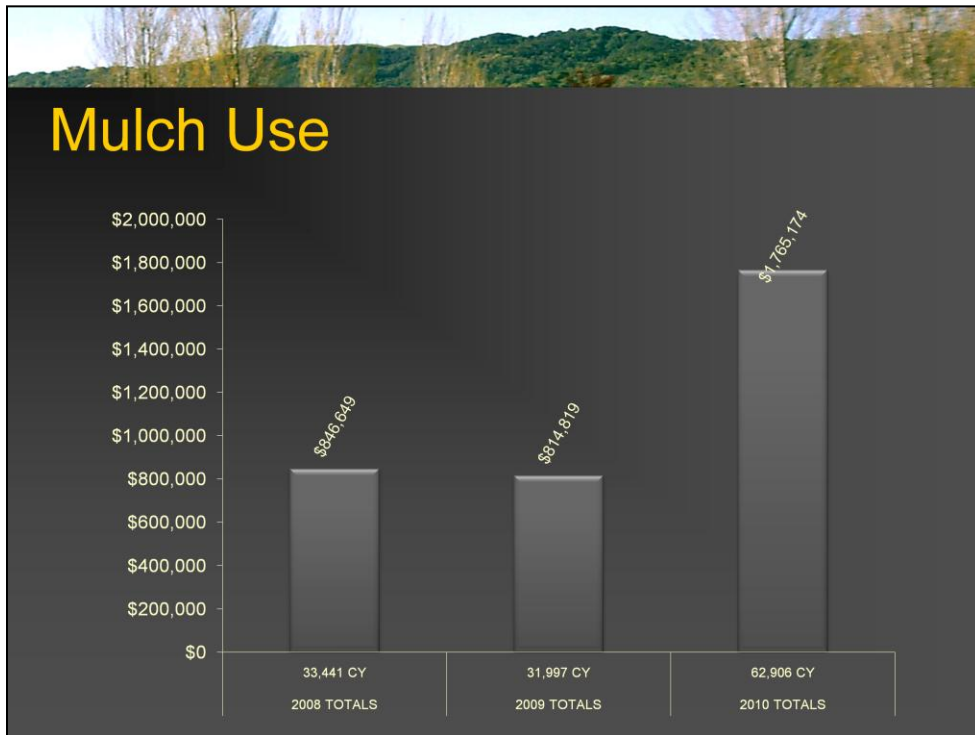
Keith covers trends and forecasts.



Highway Planting Projects – past and proposed.



Erosion Control Projects – past and proposed.



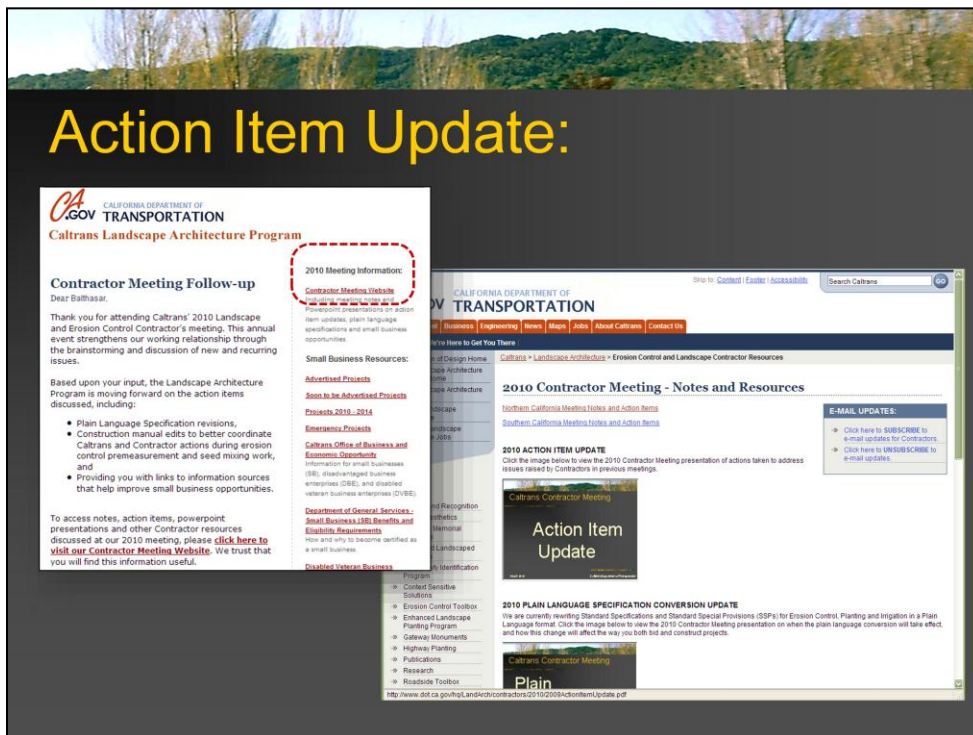
Caltrans Mulch work – past and proposed.



Caltrans Contractor Meeting

Action Item Update

Greg Balzer's review of previous Action Items



As we begin our discussion on last year's action items, I'd like to highlight a few developments following last year's meeting that hopefully you have found helpful.

In an effort to leverage technology to improve communication between Caltrans and our Contractors, we followed-up last year's meeting with an email, shown above that besides thanking you for your attendance and input, also provided a link to a website dedicated to providing you with up-to-date, easily accessible information regarding meeting action items, business development resources, and things of special interest to our contractors such as draft versions of our 2010 Erosion Control and Planting specifications.

Do any of you remember receiving this email?

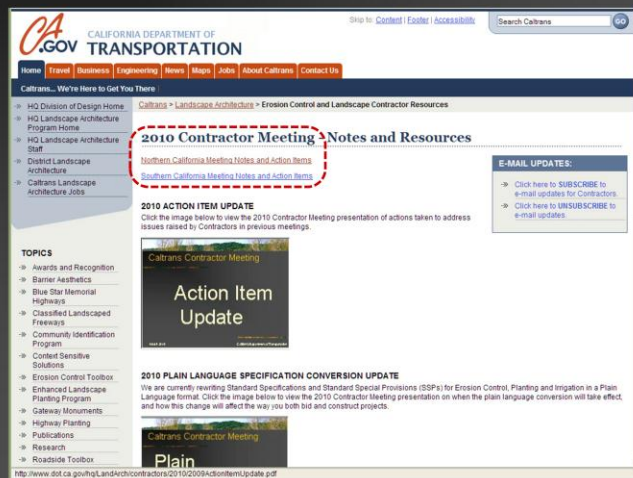
Did you find it helpful?

We sent out 39 of these emails, and 20 were opened which is over 50%, which is a good showing considering that the typical email open rate for this industry is about a 1/3.

By clicking on the link in that top right-hand corner of the email, you are whisked to the Caltrans contractor webpage, as shown on the right hand side above.

Next slide

Action Item Update:



Here is a quick view of how the Contractor website looked last March. Every year I get requests from Contractors who miss this meeting, or from product vendors who would like to know what issues were discussed.

Please note at the bottom of the page that we are posting the Powerpoint presentation from the meeting immediately following the meeting to help address this request.

At the top of this page, please notice that we are posting the meeting notes and action items identified during the meeting. I try to post the meeting notes and action items immediately following the meeting – last year these were posted in March – so you are able to see what we are working on – based upon the meeting discussions.

Action Items

With that said, let's recap last year's meeting action items...

Next Slide...



Action Item Update

- ✓ Business Development
- ✓ 2010 Specs
- ✓ Compost Specification

Four issues highlighted at last year's Contractor meeting.

1. Desire for more business development leads and information.
2. 2010 Specification review and feedback.
3. Possible compost specification edits.



Action Item Update:

Business Development

Let's look at business development opportunities and potential leads first.

Business Development:

SMALL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES WITH CALTRANS

Caltrans is committed to promoting Small Business Enterprise (SBE), Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE), and Underutilized Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (UDBE) participation in the procurement and contracting process. Click the presentation graphic below to view a presentation on small business contracting opportunities with Caltrans.



SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES

[Advised Projects](#)

[Soon to be Advised Projects](#)

[Projects 2010 - 2014](#)

[Emergency Projects](#)

[Caltrans Office of Business and Economic Opportunity](#)

Information for small businesses (SB), disadvantaged business enterprises (DBE), and disabled veteran business enterprises (DVBE).

[Department of General Services - Small Business \(SB\) Benefits and Eligibility Requirements](#)

How and why to become certified as a small business.

[Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise \(DVBE\) Program](#)

Provides an overview of DVBE Program rules, regulations, and potential violations to avoid.

[Disadvantaged Business Enterprise \(DBE\) Program](#)

Program Information, including program objectives and certification criteria.

[DBE Statewide Database](#)

Statewide database for all Disadvantaged Business Enterprise firms.

[California Department of Industrial Relations Small Business \(SB\) Portal](#)

How to start a small business, and how to comply with state laws regarding workplace safety, labor law and workers' compensation.

You asked for leads, and we provided them.

Here is a screen capture of the Contractor website.

You can see that we have provided an electronic version of Ann Blazina's presentation regarding small business opportunities at Caltrans. This presentation is available for download, and is filled with a number of links to small business resources.

Below Ann's presentation, you can also see that we have provided links to additional resources. I'm not going to promise that the information presented here is an "easy read" as most small and disadvantaged business development program documents include a lot of technical terms, but Caltrans is committed to increasing participation by SB, DBE and DVBC contractors, and if you invest the time required to understand these sites, it will be time well spent.

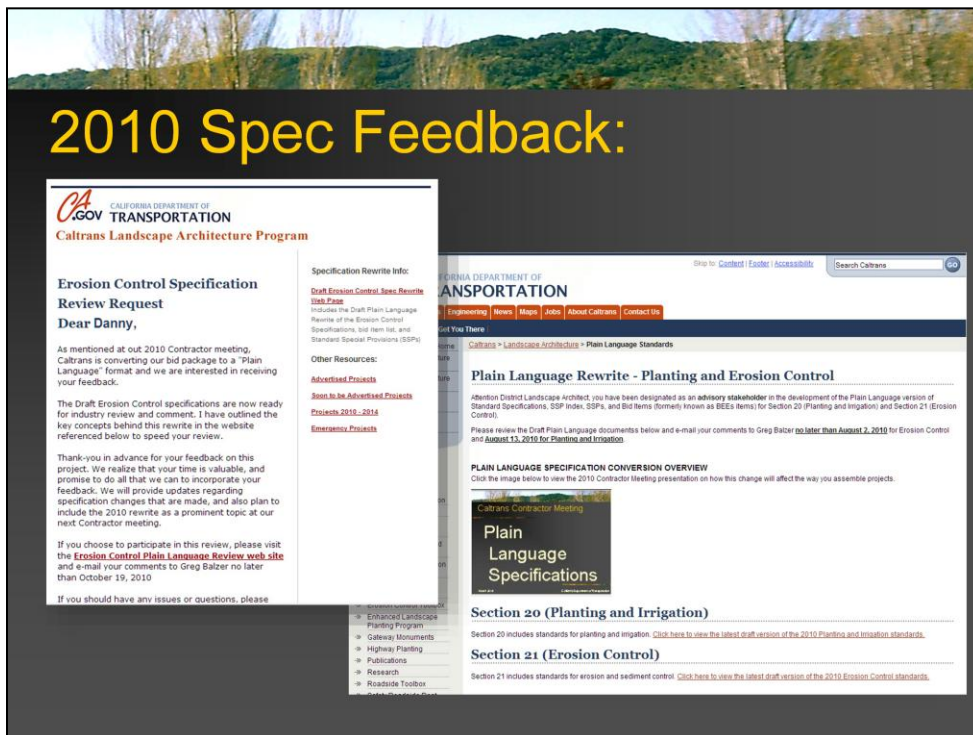
We also posted links to other various business development resources, including a number of links to projects currently out-to-bid that you can "opt-in" to advertise your professional services. Chris Johnson will provide a live click-through of these resources later in the meeting.



Action Item Update:

2010 Spec Feedback

Another action item from last year's meeting was to solicit feedback on the 2010 specification development effort.



Does the email request on the left-hand side above look familiar?

The email on the left provided a link to a Contractor website on the right that provided access to the Draft 2010 specifications for Erosion Control and Highway Planting.

In early October 2010 we sent out notification that our 2010 Erosion Control Specifications were available for your review in comment.

Notified - 40

Opened – 13

Feedback – 3 of you statewide.

I received some good questions – mostly about what moved where, and responded in detail via email.

Thank-you for your feedback.

In early November 2010 we sent out notification that our 2010 Planting and Irrigation specifications were available.

Notified - 40

Opened – 16

Feedback – The only feedback that I received was that you needed more time to review the documents. More time was provided, but I never saw any comments, feedback, or corrections.

Has anybody here read the 2010 Highway Planting specifications?

Do you have any further comments that you would like to share?



Another action item from last year's meeting was to examine the "fit" between our current Compost and Mulch specifications and the materials available from "industry". We have heard some feedback that the materials specified have been difficult to locate.



In a nutshell, here is a description of the issue:

1. Mulch – we have been specifying that SOME mulch products be composted.
2. Compost – we have been specifying some coarse woody compost materials that many considered to be mulch AND basically were too woody to pass the Stability and Maturity tests for compost.

We had good reasons to specify things this way – but frankly this approach just didn't work. It was confusing (is it mulch or compost) and the materials just were not available.



Specify Mulch as Mulch, Compost and Compost.


Don't require woody mulch to be composted.

Call Mulch – mulch.


Call Compost – compost.

If a product is required to be composted – call it all compost.

If a designer required a product that is a mixture of compost and woody material – specify a mixture of compost and mulch.



Compost and Mulch:



20-7.02D(6) Mulch
20-7.02D(6)(a) General
Mulch must not contain more than 0.1 percent of deleterious materials such as rocks, glass, plastics, metals, clods, weeds, weed seeds, coarse objects, sticks larger than the specified particle size, salts, paint, petroleum products, pesticides or other chemical residues harmful to plant or animal life.

20-7.02D(6)(b) Tree Bark
Tree bark must be derived from Douglas fir, redwood, or cedar species.
Tree bark must be ground so that a minimum of 95 percent of the material by volume is less than 2 inches and no more than 30 percent by volume is less than 1 inch.

20-7.02D(6)(c) Wood Chips
Wood chips must be derived from clean wood and not contain leaves or small twigs.
Wood chips must have an average thickness of 1/16-inch, length between 1/2-inch and 3-inches, and a width 3/8-inch or greater. At least 95 percent of wood chips, by volume, must conform to these dimensions.

20-7.02D(6)(d) Shredded Bark
Shredded bark must be a blend of loose, long, thin wood or bark pieces derived from trees with a high length-to-width ratio. A minimum of 95 percent of the wood strands must have lengths from 2 to 8 inches, with a width and thickness from 1/8 to 1-1/2 inches.

20-7.02D(6)(e) Tree Trimmings
Tree trimmings must be derived from chipped trees and may contain leaves and small twigs.
Tree trimmings must have a particle size so that a minimum of 95 percent of the material by volume is less than 3 inches and no more than 30 percent by volume is less than 1 inch.

Here's the new Mulch spec – no composting required.

Compost and Mulch:



Compost Properties		
Property	Test method ^{1,2}	Requirement
pH	TMECC 04.11-A Elastomeric pH 1.5 slurry method	6-8.5
Soluble salts	TMECC 04.10-A Electrical conductivity 1.5 Slurry Method dS/m (mmhos/cm)	0-10
Moisture content	TMECC 03.09-A Total Solids & Moisture at 70 ± 5 °C % Wet weight basis	30-60
Organic matter content	TMECC 05.07-A Loss-On-Ignition Organic Matter Method (LOI) % Dry weight basis	40-100
Maturity	TMECC 05.05-A Germination and vigor	--
	Seed emergence	80 or above
	Seedling vigor	80 or above
Stability	% Relative to positive control	80 or above
	TMECC 05.08-B Carbon dioxide evolution rate mg CO ₂ -C/g OM per day	8 or below
	Particle size: fine compost	min max
Particle size: medium compost	TMECC 02.02-B Sample sieving for aggregate Size classification % dry weight basis	min max
	Pass 5/8 inch sieve	95% --
	Pass 3/8 inch sieve	70% --
	Maximum particle length: 6 inches	-- 30%
	Pass 1 inch sieve (minimum 70% retained)	-- 30%
Particle size: coarse compost	TMECC 02.02-B Sample sieving for aggregate Size classification % dry weight basis	min max
	Pass 2-1/2 inch sieve	99% --
	Pass 3/8 inch sieve (minimum 60% retained)	-- 40%
	Maximum particle length: 6 inches	--
Pathogen	TMECC 07.01-B Salmonella < 3 MPN per 4 grams, dry weight basis	pass
Pathogen	TMECC 07.01-B Fecal coliform bacteria < 1000 MPN per gram, dry weight basis	pass

Here's the new compost spec.

It includes fine, medium and coarse compost.

I left the coarse option in because that is what is required by our Compost Filter Sock SSP – and I have been told that it is indeed available.

Compost and Mulch:



EROSION CONTROL (TYPE 7) SEQUENCE AND APPLICATION RATE								
Installation Sequence	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5			
Bid Item	Mulch	Compost	Incorporate Materials	RECP (Netting)	Hydrosseed			
Materials	Mulch	Compost	-	Netting	Seed	Fiber	Fertilizer	Tack
Type	Wood Chips	Medium	8" Depth	Type B	Type 1	Wood	Organic	Guar
Application Rate	100 cy/ac	150 cy/ac	-	-	30 lbs/ac	600 lbs/ac	300 lbs/ac	70 lbs/ac

EROSION CONTROL (TYPE 4) SEQUENCE AND APPLICATION RATE									
Installation Sequence	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3		Step 4	Step 5	Step 6		
Bid Item	Compost	Mulch	Incorporate Materials		Drillseed	Straw	Hydromulch		
Materials	Compost	Mulch	Compost	Mulch	Seed	Straw	Fiber	Fertilizer	Tack
Type	Fine	Shredded Bark	-	-	Type 3	Rice	Wood	Organic	Guar
Application Rate	150 cy/ac	100 cy/ac	12" Depth		18 lbs/ac	2000 lbs/ac	600 lbs/ac	300 lbs/ac	70 lbs/ac

Here's the final piece of the puzzle.

If a designer wants a mixture of compost and mulch, they will simply specify the use of BOTH products.



Caltrans Contractor Meeting

Plain Language Specifications



Caltrans Contractor Meeting

What is the Plain Language Rewrite?



Goals:

- Streamlined Project Development
- Elimination of Redundant Language
- Clear & Direct Language
- Reduced Claims and CCOs

Clear concise language that reduces claims and CCOs.



Implementation

NOW:

Contracts Advertised July 2009:

- Sections 1-9 (General)
- Sections 10-15 (General Construction)

WHEN Does this Take Place?

Check the front of your current contract documents for the “Amendments to the Standard Specifications”.

Likely dated 07-31-2009 or 02-11-2010!

Includes a Plain Language rewrite of Standard Specifications Sections 1-9 and 10-15.

375 Pages!

Sections 1-9

Definitions, bidder instructions, licensing, insurance, changes, partnering, HIERARCHY, dispute resolution, liquidated damages, measurement and payment,

Sections 10-15

Traffic control, Environmental requirements, existing highway facilities.



Implementation

NEXT:

- Books Available – Mid 2011
- Use On All Projects – December 2011?

WHEN Does this Take Place?

Check the front of your current contract documents for the “Amendments to the Standard Specifications”.

Likely dated 07-31-2009.

Includes a Plain Language rewrite of Standard Specifications Sections 1-9 and 10-15.

127 Pages!

Sections 1-9

Definitions, bidder instructions, licensing, insurance, changes, partnering, HIERARCHY, dispute resolution, liquidated damages, measurement and payment,

Sections 10-15

Traffic control, Environmental requirements, existing highway facilities.



Plain Language Rewrite

Key Concepts

Here are some KEY Concepts to keep in mind regarding the 2010 PLV rewrite.

You need to understand these fundamentals in Sections 1-15 before you can correctly interpret sections 19-99.



Key Concept: Language Scope

Scope:

- Brevity – the result of stating something once in a global location.
- Just because language was removed doesn't mean it no longer applies.


Brevity in the Plain Language Specifications is achieved through saying something only ONCE, in the correct location.

Just because something was removed DOES NOT mean that it no longer applies.

It is very important to understand the SCOPE of the language in the Plain Language documents.

SECTION 1-9 APPLY TO EVERY JOB.

What's in Section 1-9? Not sufficient time to cover this in detail



Language Scope: Examples

Deleted:	Because:
"As shown on the plans"	Section 5-1: Drawings are part of the contract.
"By the Engineer"	Section 5-1: Orders, certifications, and requests to the Contractor are <u>by the Engineer</u> .
"In writing"	Section 5-1: Authorizations, certifications, approvals, notifications, and orders are <u>in writing</u> .
"As determined by the Engineer"	Section 5-1 defines the Engineer's Authority.
<Work Description> includes furnishing materials.	Section 5-1: Furnish the resources required to complete the work.

Specific examples of language that does not need to be repeated because it is covered in "global" Section 5.



Key Concept: Bid Items

Project Description (Section 4)

- The bid items set forth the specifications that apply.
 - A bid item may have no special provisions.
 - A bid item may have no plans.

BIG Key Concept

BID ITEMS are the structure, the framework upon which everything (Plans, Specs) else hangs.

NO LONGER does each item require a specification as all the work may be included in the Standard Specifications.

The old (pre-2010) language was:

“The special provisions, project plans, and bid item descriptions set forth the specifications that apply.”



Key Concept: Payment

Payment (Section 9)

- For Sections 1-9
 - Full compensation is included in the payment for the bid items involved.
- For Sections 9-99
 - Payment is covered by the items in the Bid Item List.


BIG Key Concepts

Payment for work in Sections 1-9 is included in the bid items in the bid item list.

Payment for work in Sections 9-99 includes everything included within the specification for that bid item.

No separate full comp clause required.

Note – A work item may have NO specification. Look to the BID Items to bid the work.



New Language Example:

Before Plain Language:

At the option of the Contractor, a growth regulator may be applied to mowed areas, provided the growth regulator is approved in advance by the Engineer and the growth regulator is applied in conformance with these special provisions. If a growth regulator is approved and applied, the growth regulator shall be at the Contractor's expense.

At the option of the Contractor, plants of a larger container size than those originally specified may be used for replacement plants during the first 125 working days of the plant establishment period. The use of plants of a larger container size than those originally specified for replacement plants shall be at the Contractor's expense.

After Plain Language:

A growth regulator may be applied to mowed areas.¶

Replacement of plants up to and including the 125th plant establishment working day must be of the same size as originally specified. You may use larger container size plants.¶

A good example of Brevity as a result of less language due to “scope”.
Before and After...

CAN YOU FIND A BETTER EXAMPLE GREG? MOVED FROM SPEC TO PLAN?



Plain Language Rewrite

Erosion Control



Erosion Control PLV Goals

- “A La Carte” (vs Predefined) Specifications
- Consolidates Information Currently Scattered on the Specifications & Plans
- Flexibility

Flexibility to select and combine the best appropriate materials.

We will look at this in more detail later – hold this thought.

BIG CHANGE

Actually Not REALLY so big:

MOVED SSPS to the Std Specs and the Plans.

Changed payment from “Assemblies” back to Individual Materials.

Significant Changes:

Application

Apply erosion control (Hydroseed) materials in separate applications in the following sequence:

1. Apply the following mixture with hydroseeding equipment at the rates indicated within 60 minutes after the seed has been added to the mixture:

Material	Pounds Per Acre (Slope Measurement)
Seed	
Fiber	
Commercial Fertilizer	
Organic Fertilizer	

2. Apply straw at the rate of __ tons per acre based on slope measurements. Incorporation of straw will not be required. Distribute straw evenly without clumping or piling.

3. Apply the following mixture with hydro-seeding equipment at the corresponding rates:

Material	Pounds Per Acre (Slope Measurement)
Fiber	
Commercial Fertilizer	
Organic Fertilizer	
Tackifier	

Old – In SSP

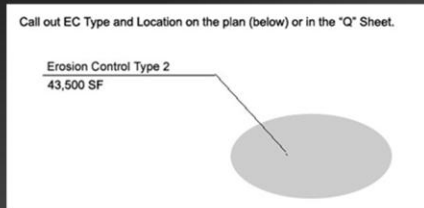
EROSION CONTROL (TYPE A) SEQUENCE AND APPLICATION RATE

Installation Sequence	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6			
Bid Item	Compost	Mulch	Incorporate Materials	Drillseed	Straw	Hydromulch			
Materials	Compost	Mulch	Compost	Mulch	Seed	Straw	Fiber	Fertilizer	Tack
Type	Fine	Shredded Bark	-	-	Type 3	Rice	Wood	Organic	Guar
Application Rate	150 cy/ac	100 cy/ac	12" Depth		18 lbs/ac	2000 lbs/ac	600 lbs/ac	300 lbs/ac	70 lbs/ac

New – On Plans

How is this accomplished? Location Change from SSPs to the Plans.
 What does this look like? See above.
 Application Rate and Sequence Tables move from the specs to the plans.
 PROVIDES FLEXIBILITY IN ORDER OF APPLICATION.

Significant Changes:



EROSION CONTROL (TYPE 4) LOCATION		
Sheet	Station	Acre
PP-1	"A" 226+90 to "A" 227+	20
PP-1	"A" 227+10 to "A" 228+	10
PP-2	"A" 229+90 to "A" 230+	5
PP-2	"B" 230+10 to "B" 231+	10
PP-3	"B" 231+20 to "A" 232+	6
PP-4	"C" 290+00 to "C" 295+	5
Total		56

HOW DO I CALL OUT THE MATERIALS AND SEQUENCE ON THE PLANS?

Here's Two Possible Ways:

As a Call-Out on the Plan Sheets or by Sheet numbers or Stations on the Quantity Plan Sheets

Other options are possible – Edit as you best see fit - However the work to be performed needs to be described.

No SSP or NSSP required.



Plain Language Rewrite

Planting & Irrigation



Significant Change: Payment

Currently:

Current Roadway Projects	2010 PLV Roadway Projects
Planting → Cost Breakdown w/Quantities	Individual Bid Items for Each Plant Size
Irrigation → Cost Breakdown w/Quantities	Individual Bid Item for Various Irrigation Components
Lump Sum Bid for Planting	Bid Item for Plant Establishment
Lump Sum Bid for Irrigation	
Individual Bid Item for Plant Establishment	

Lump Sum Payment for Planting and Irrigation become separate bid items.



Recap: 2010 Changes

- Redundant Language Removed
- Sections 1-15 Apply to ALL Projects
- Bid Item List Indicates the Work Involved
- Seed Tables Move to the Plans
- Materials and Sequence Move to the Plans
- Bid Items Replace Cost Breakdowns

Planting and Irrigation switches to bid items – no more cost breakdown.



Action Item Update:

How to find work and bid Caltrans projects

Another action item from last year's meeting was to solicit feedback on the 2010 specification development effort.



Caltrans Contractor Meeting

Break



Caltrans Contractor Meeting

Construction General Permit

Landscape Contractor Meeting

Questions?





EC Contractor Meeting

Open Forum

A scenic landscape photograph featuring a paved road in the foreground, a line of trees with some autumn-colored foliage in the middle ground, and rolling green hills in the background under a clear blue sky. The text "Landscape Contractor Meeting" is overlaid in yellow at the top, and "Thank-You" is overlaid in large white letters in the center.

Landscape Contractor Meeting

Thank-You